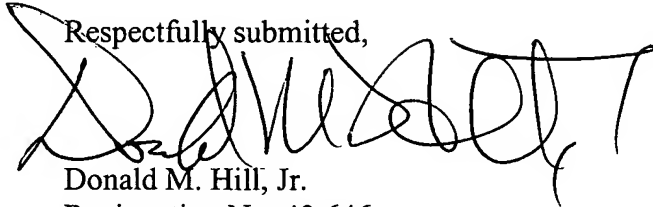


### REMARKS

Original Claims 1-31 have been canceled and replaced with new Claims 32-50 in order to eliminate multiple dependencies and to effect other amendments.

Respectfully submitted,



Donald M. Hill, Jr.  
Registration No. 40,646

**Customer No. 00826**  
**ALSTON & BIRD LLP**  
Bank of America Plaza  
101 South Tryon Street, Suite 4000  
Charlotte, NC 28280-4000  
Tel Charlotte Office (704) 444-1000  
Fax Charlotte Office (704) 444-1111

"Express Mail" mailing label number EV 339392368 US  
Date of Deposit April 20, 2006

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Nancy McPartland